

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 03009 010855Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 IO-13 DHA-02 /086 W  
-----010913 087896/12

P R 010820Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6543  
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, RP, LY, XF  
SUBJECT: FURTHER MARCOS COMMENT ON MINDANAO

REF: (A) MANILA 2944; (B) MANILA 3003

1. IN MARCH 1 SPEECH AT PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY GRADUATION,  
PRESIDENT MARCOS AGAIN DESCRIBED STATUS OF MINDANAO NEGOTIATIONS.  
FOR MOST PART SPEECH COVERED SAME GROUND REPORTED REF A, WITH  
FOLLOWING SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONS:

A) MARCOS SAID SOLE OBSTACLE TO NEGOTIATIONS IS  
POSITION OF MNLF, JUST CONVEYED TO HIM VIA CABLE  
FROM QADHAFI, THAT UNLESS PROVINCES OF PALAWAN,  
SOUTH COTABATO AND DAVAO SUR ARE INCLUDED IN  
AUTONOMOUS REGION, "FIGHTING MAY BE RESUMED."  
MARCOS PROFESSED TO BELIEVE THIS IS "NEGOTIATING  
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POSITION." HE CALLED ON LIBYANS AND ISLAMIC  
CONFERENCE TO JOIN GOP NOW IN DEMONSTRATING  
"HIGHEST FORM OF STATESMANSHIP" TO ACHIEVE  
REGIONAL AUTONOMY WITHOUT VIOLATING PHILIPPINE  
CONSTITUTION (I.E. WITH PLEBISCITE).  
HE EXPRESSED FAITH IN "SINCERITY" OF QADHAFI  
AND ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND OPTIMISM THAT

"FINAL SETTLEMENT" WILL BE REACHED.

B) MARCOS THEN "REVEALED" THAT IN ORDER TO ALLOW FREE DISCUSSION AND ACHIEVE FAIR VOTE IN MARCH 17 PLEBISCITE HE HAS ORDERED SUSPENSION OF MARTIAL LAW IN 13 PROVINCES INVOLVED. HE AGAIN EXPRESSED HIS "PERSONAL OPINION" THAT 10 PROVINCES OF REGIONS IX AND XII SHOULD BE UNIFIED TO CREATE NEW REGION (I.E. WITHOUT THREE PROVINCES INCLUSION OF WHICH MNLF IS DEMANDING).

C) AS APPARENT AFTERTHOUGHT, MARCOS STATED THAT "IF NO OTHER RECOURSE IF AVAILABE" MRS. MARCOS WILL RETURN TO LIBYA ON SECOND MISSION TO ACHIEVE SETTLEMENT.

2. MARCOS PREFACED DISCUSSION MINDANAO BY NOTING CADETS PROBABLY ANXIOUS TO HAVE ANSWER TO QUESTION, "WILL YOU BE GRADUATING INTO A WAR IN MINDANAO?" JUDGING FROM TV COVERAGE, CADETS EXPRESSED LITTLE REACTION TO SPEECH EXCEPT WHEN PRESIDENT INTERRUPTED HIMSELF TO SIGN DECREE RAISING THEIR BASE PAY FROM P390 TO P 470 PER MONTH, AT WHICH POINT THEY BURST INTO THUNDEROUS APPALUSE.

3. COMMENT: MARCOS CONTINUES TO CONVEY PUBLIC IMPRESSION, WHICH WE NOW KNOW ERRONEOUS, THAT LIBYANS ARE MERELY COMMUNICATING AND NOT SUPPORTING MNLF DEMANDS.

SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROVINCE, LIBERATION FRONTS, SELFGOVERNMENT, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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